GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3290
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
SHORTAGE OF SPACE SCIENTISTS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of space scientists in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the status of scientists and engineers available and required by Indian Space Research Organisation; and

(d) the action plan of the Government to meet the shortage of scientists and engineers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) The Indian Space Research Organisation requires high quality Scientists/Engineers for its pursuit of excellence in Space Science, Technology & Applications with periodic induction of highly talented young students to take up the challenges of high technical research & development. With increasing opportunities for more lucrative jobs, the participation of bright young minds from premier academic institutions in the Indian space programme has declined. In spite of continued improvements in recruitment and outreach efforts, the turnout is below the requirements.

(d) The Government proposes to establish the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology near Thiruvananthapuram. The Institute will offer Undergraduate, Post graduate and post doctoral programmes in Space Science and Space Technology. The institute is primarily meant to meet the requirement of highly skilled manpower for our Space Programme.